

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method of detecting fishing conditions to allow for selection of a proper fishing lure comprising:

a) providing a screening device having an elongated frame, the elongated frame supporting an elongate screen, the screen attached to the frame to form a curved configuration in use;

supporting the frame whereby a user inserts at least a portion of the frame and screen into shallow water, with the frame oriented so the elongate screen spans a depth of the water near a bottom of the shallow water and close to a surface of the water;

maintaining at least a portion of the frame in the water for a period of time to collect organisms in the water on the screen;

removing the portion of the frame and screen from the water and inspecting the screen for collected organisms; and

selecting the fishing lure based on the organisms collected.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the frame is collapsible and the frame is collapsed after completing the inspecting step.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the frame has one or more support portions and one or both of the support portions are embedded in a bed underlying the water as part of the insertion step.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein a frame includes one or more handle portions that can be grasped by a user for the insertion step.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein larvae or pupae of aquatic insects are collected and a fly-type lure is selected based on the collected larvae or pupae.

6. The method of claim 1,, wherein aquatic insects are collected and a fly-type lure is selected based on the where the collected aquatic insects are located on the screen.

7. A screening device for determining fishing conditions comprising:

a) a frame having a pair of side rails and at least two cross members, the cross members interconnecting the pair of side rails, the side rails include at least one handle portion and one support portion;

b) a flexible screen having opposing ends and opposing sides, each opposing side aligned and attached to a respective side rail, at least one opposing end being a free end and extending between the pair of side rails, the flexible screen having a width such that the free end is curved in shape during use.

8. The screening device of claim 7, wherein each cross member further comprises:

a pair of cross member segments, each segment pivotally attached to a side rail at one end, other ends of each segment pivotally attached together so that the cross member segments and side rails can fold up.

9. The screening device of claim 7, wherein each end of the screen is free and curved in shape during use.

10. The screening device of claim 7, wherein the cross members and side rails are immobile with respect to each other when the side rails are interconnected by the cross members.

11. The screening device of claim 8, wherein the cross member segments lock to keep the side rails spaced apart for collecting purposes.